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of Miss Mayo, the daughter of Pestalozzi's famous English disciple, add to the interest of the work. The strength of the study lies in its excellent organization, its complete and sometimes fresh treatment of an oft-discussed theme, its liberal use of quotations from Pestalozzi's less familiar writings, and its brief but suggestive criticism.

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Brief German Grammar. By ROSCOE JAMES HAM AND ARTHUR NEWTON LEONARD. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1908. Pp. 241. \$0.90.

A First German Book. By GEORGE M. HOWE. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1908. Pp. 223. \$0.90.

German Inflections. By H. C. BIERWIRTH. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1908. Pp. 82. \$0.40.

Among the long list of beginners' books in German that have been placed upon the market within the last few years, Ham and Leonard's *Grammar* is, without doubt, one of the best. It is intended, according to the statement of the authors in the preface, to meet the practice of those teachers who believe that a thorough grounding of the essentials of German grammar is the best preparation for reading and speaking German. The book can be completed in college classes by the end of the first half of the school year, if desired; but it is more complete than the ordinary beginners' book. One of its best features is the well-selected anecdote in each lesson, upon which the German and English exercises are based and which affords excellent material for German conversation. It is doubtful, however, whether the grammatical facts are always presented in the best order. The complete subjunctive inflection, for instance, appears before the declension of the weak adjective, and the conditionals before the comparison of adjectives and the inflection of personal pronouns.

The *First German Book* is constructed upon the inductive plan. The first 126 pages contain the material to be covered by the student, the second part contains the summary of the grammatical material presented in Part I. The defects of the book are more apparent than its excellences. In the first place the reading material is poorly selected, it being uninteresting and its vocabulary not sufficiently practical and everyday. In the second place the large number of unexplained constructions in the reading material of the first part of the book is likely to prove bewildering to the beginner. And lastly the order in which the grammatical points are presented is questionable. The declension of the noun should come before the subjunctive of indirect discourse and before a full explanation of separable and inseparable prefixes.

Bierwirth in his little book attempts to group according to types, not as is usually done according to parts of speech, all the different accidents of the language. The idea is admirably carried out, and the book will no doubt prove valuable as a reference as well as a drill book for first- and second-year students.

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